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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/810,113

03/25/2004

Peter Arthur Schade

2797P

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7590

12/14/2006

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EXAMINER

SORRELL, ERON J

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2182

DATE MAILED: 12/14/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/810,113

Applicant(s)

SCHADE, PETER ARTHUR

Examiner

Eron J. Sorrell

Art Unit

2182

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 25 September 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-14 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 and 3-14 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 25 March 2004 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/25/06 has been entered.

Drawings

2. Figure 1 should be designated by a legend such as --Prior Art-- because only that which is old is illustrated. See MPEP § 608.02(g).

3. The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they include the following reference character(s) not mentioned in the description: item 102 and 104 in figure 3; item 302, 304, 306a, and 306b in figure 5; item 402 and 404a in figure 7; items 502, 504, and 506 in figure 8.

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Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d), or amendment to the specification to add the reference character(s) in the description in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(b) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. Each drawing sheet submitted after the filing date of an application must be labeled in the top margin as either "Replacement Sheet" or "New Sheet" pursuant to 37 CFR 1.121(d). If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Specification

4. The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: The claims recites the term "USB root hub" however, the terminology is not found in the specification.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

5. The following is a quotation of the second paragraph of 35 U.S.C. 112:

The specification shall conclude with one or more claims particularly pointing out and distinctly claiming the subject matter which the applicant regards as his invention.

6. Claims 3, 4, and 6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention.

7. Claims 3 and 4 recite the limitation "the single I/O interface" in line 2 of each claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

8. Claim 5 recites the limitation "the connector" at line 2 of the claim. There is insufficient antecedent basis for this limitation in the claim.

9. Referring to claim 5, the limitation of "wherein a device only needs one physical I/O port via the connector" is unclear to the Examiner. It appears as if the claim is missing language. Perhaps the applicant intended the claim to recite

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that the device only needs one physical port to communicate via the connector." Appropriate correction is required.

10. In the interest of compact prosecution, claims 3-5 will be interpreted as best understood by the Examiner.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

11. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

12. Claims 1 and 3-14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Shu (U.S. Patent No. 6,058,441).

13. Referring to claim 1, Shu teaches a single computer USB interface (item 100 in figure 1) comprising:

a USB root hub host port (item 11 in figure 1 and); and

a USB peripheral port (item 12 in figure 1 and) wherein the USB peripheral port and the USB root hub host port are both active at the same time (see lines 23-27 of column 5, note the upstream and downstream devices are allowed to communicate with

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each other), wherein the USB root hub host port and the USB peripheral port are defined using predetermined signals (see lines 27-47 of column 3).

14. Referring to claims 3 and 4, Shu teaches the devices can be connected in a peer-to-peer connection, or a one-to-many via the host and/or peripheral ports (see lines 44-48 of column 2, note a single device can be connected to the host, or a chain of devices can be connected).

15. Referring to claim 5, Shu teaches a device only needs one physical port via the connector (see items labeled "FUNCTION" in figure 6, each peripheral has one port for which to connect with the interface).

16. Referring to claim 6, Shu teaches the predetermined signals comprise host differential data lines and peripheral differential data lines (see lines 27-47 of column 3).

17. Referring to claim 7, Shu teaches a USB network comprising:
a first device, (item 100 in figure 1); the first device includes a single computer USB interface the first interface including a USB root hub host port (item 11 in figure 1 and);

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and a USB peripheral port (item 12 in figure 1 and), wherein the USB root hub host port and the USB peripheral port are defined using predetermined signals (see lines 27-47 of column 3); and

a second device for communicating with the first device (see items labeled "FUNCTION" in figure 6, each peripheral has one port for which to connect with the interface), using the predetermined signals wherein the USB peripheral port and the USB root hub host port are both active at the same time (see lines 23-27 of column 5, note the upstream and downstream devices are allowed to communicate with each other).

18. Referring to claims 8 and 9, Shu teaches the predetermined signals are within the USB standard (see lines 27-47 of column 3).

19. Referring to claim 10, Shu teaches the first and second devices can be any of a camera, computer, PDA, laptop device, handheld device, printer, and cellular telephone (see lines 1-7 of column 4).

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20. Referring to claim 11, Shu teaches the predetermined signals comprise host differential data lines and peripheral differential data lines (see lines 27-47 of column 3).

21. Referring to claim 12, Shu teaches a device comprising:

a processor (see item 20 in figure 1 and lines 48-52 of column 3) and a single computer USB interface (item 100 in figure 1) comprising a USB root hub host port (item 11 in figure 1 and); and a USB peripheral port (item 12 in figure 1 and) wherein the USB peripheral port and the USB root hub host port are both active at the same time (see lines 23-27 of column 5, note the upstream and downstream devices are allowed to communicate with each other), wherein the USB root hub host port and the USB peripheral port are defined using predetermined signals (see lines 27-47 of column 3).

22. Referring to claim 13, Shu teaches the single computer USB interface requires a connection to only one physical I/O port if the device is coupled to a device with a connector that includes a USB host port and a USB peripheral port which are defined using the predetermined signals (see items labeled "FUNCTION" in figure 6, each peripheral has one port for which to connect with the interface).

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23. Referring to claim 14, Shu teaches the predetermined signals comprise host differential data lines and peripheral differential data lines (see lines 27-47 of column 3).

Response to Arguments

24. Applicant's arguments with respect to claims 1 and 3-14 have been considered but are moot in view of the new ground(s) of rejection.

Conclusion

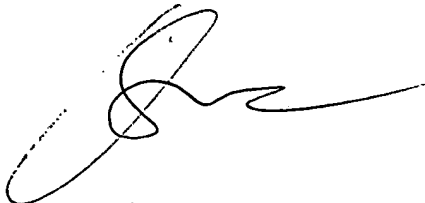
Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Eron J. Sorrell whose telephone number is 571 272-4160. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday 8:00AM - 4:30PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Kim Huynh can be reached on 571-272-4147. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

EJS
December 8, 2006



KIM HUYNH
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER

12/11/06